

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 IO-14 DRC-01 AID-20 /128 W

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R 190454Z JAN 74

FM AOEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0714

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS TAIPEI 0427

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TW, CH, RP, VS

SUBJECT: CONFLICTING CLAIMS TO SOUTH CHINA SEA ISLANDS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. ON JAN 18 THE ROC CHIMED IN ON THE DISPUTE ABOUT SOVEREIGNTY OVER ISLANDS OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEAS, WITH A MOFA STATEMENT REITERATING THE ROC CLAIM TO SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE PRATAS, PARACEL, MACCELESFIELD BANK, AND SPRATLEY ISLANDS, REEFS AND SHOALS. MOFA STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT: IN CONNECTION WITH FOREIGN WIRE SERVICE REPORTS CONCERNING THE STATUS OF THE NAN SHA (THE SPRATLY ISLANDS) AND HSI SHA (THE PARACEL ISLANDS) ARCHIPELAGO, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA REITERATES EMPHATICALLY THE FOLLOWING:

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"THE NAN SHA AND HSI SHA ISLANDS ARE INHERENTLY PARTS OF

THE TERRITORIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA. THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER THESE ISLANDS IS
NOT TO BE DOUBTED.

"ALTHOUGH THESE ISLANDS HAD ONCE BEEN OCCUPIED BY JAPAN
DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, THEY WERE RESTORED TO THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA WHEN, AFTER THE WAR, IN DECEMBER, 1946,
CHINESE NAVAL VESSELS WERE DISPATCHED BY THE GOVERNMENT
TO TAKE OVER THESE ISLANDS.

"STONE MARKING TABLETS WERE THEN ERECTED; AN ON SOME
ISLANDS GARRISON FORCES HAVE BEEN STATIONED EVER SINCE.

"ON DECEMBER 1, 1947, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
CHINA FURTHER ANNOUNCED THE STANDARDIZED NAMES, WHICH
WERE VERIFIED BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, OF THE
VARIOUS ISLANDS, ISLETS, REEFS, AND SHOALS OF THE TUNG
SHA (PRATAS), HSI SHA (PARACEL), CHUNG SHA (MACCELESFIELD)
BANK) AND NAN SHA (SPRATLY) ISLANDS. IT IS AN INDISPUTABLE
FACT THAT ALL THE SAID ISLANDS CONSTITUTE AN INTEGRAL
PART OF THE TERRITORIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

"DURING THE PAST YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CHINA SUCCESSIVELY LODGED WRITTEN AND/OR VERBAL
PROTESTS, ON JANUARY 25, AUGUST 9, AUGUST 27, AND
OCTOBER 26, WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE COUNTRIES
WHICH CLAIMED THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ISLANDS: AND RE-
AFFIRMED ITS FIRM POSITION THAT ONLY THE REPUBLIC OF
CHINA HAS SOVEREIGNTY OVER THESE ISLANDS." END
TEXT.

3. COMMENTS FOLLOW SEPTTEL.
MCCONAUGHY

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